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Statement submitted by Association Internationale Droits Homme, a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council

The Secretary-General has received the following statement, which is being circulated in accordance with paragraphs 30 and 31 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.



Statement*

I. Introduction

The International Human Rights Association is a Non-Governmental Organization working for women's empowerment in countries under the yoke of racism, discrimination and inequality. This short presentation will insist on the agenda of the International Human Rights Association about the place of the Woman in society.

II. Methodology

To understand the debate on women's empowerment, the theoretical background of our NGO has always been that of Feminism. Despite the different types of feminist approaches like Muslim Feminism, Black Feminism and Western Feminism or Third-World Feminism, our approach to Feminism insists on the disparities between the North and the South. In countries torn by war, famine or starvation, like in Kivu province (Democratic Republic of the Congo), South Sudan, northeastern Nigeria, the Federal Republic of Somalia, or northern Cameroon, the issue of survival is the main paradigm of the populations that flee terrorism, collective rapings or starvation.

III. Results

Sustainable development, women's empowerment and the demand for gender equality in the public realm and society

In this part, the case of France is illustrative. Since the 2007 economic crisis, French women have gone through harsh living conditions. In this period of time, women have been considered as the most affected segment of French society in the 2012 European Parliament report on the repercussions of the economic crisis over women.

Therefore, the objective of the International Human Rights Association is to draw the awareness of the French government on gender disparities to, among other issues, the following:

- Implementing reforms to permit women to gain financial independence;
- Changing the vision of the Welfare State about women;
- Defending "equal pay for equal work";
- Unionizing women;
- Making women the breadwinner;
- Avoiding part-time jobs that damage women;
- Fighting against sexism;
- Building equal opportunities for minority groups.

* The present statement is being issued without formal editing.

IV. Conclusion

In 2016 the International Association will be organizing events to sensitize governments urgently to intervene in the realm of human rights, in France and abroad. With the Town Hall of the city of Paris, a documentary entitled, "Abeti MASIKINI: the fight of a life", paying tribute to the late Congolese diva will be aired to recognise one of the most powerful African women in the musical domain and meetings will be held with migrants in the north of France, in the region called Pas-de-Calais, where inter-community violence against women is registered.
